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**IN THE DRAWINGS**

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figure 32A to 32C. In Figure 32A to 32C, the legend "RELATED ART" has been added.

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Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

**I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS**

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 9, which are independent, are hereby amended. It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were in full compliance with the requirements 35 U.S.C. §112. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which the Applicants are entitled.

The drawings were objected to. Specifically, the Examiner stated that Figure 32A to 32C should be designated as prior art. Applicants have amended Figure 32A to 32C by adding the legend "Related Art." A "Replacement Sheet" is attached at the end of this amendment. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

**II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)**

Claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,774,593 to Zick, et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,320,710 to Ohnishi.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

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“...detecting means for detecting a continuousness of said plurality of blocks based on position information of the blocks on the screen, the position information being stored in each of the blocks arranged in the data stream; and correcting means for correcting the continuousness of a discontinuous plurality of blocks by using position information of a previous block based on a result of the detection by said detecting means.” (emphasis added)

As understood by Applicants, U.S. Patent No. 5,774,593 to Zick, et al. (hereinafter, merely “Zick”) relates to automatic scene decomposition and optimization of MPEG compressed video signals. Analysis of a video signal in an MPEG compressed format is performed to identify scene changes to facilitate indexing to access specific video frames and to improve data compression and/or quality of the compressed video.

As understood by Applicants, U.S. Patent No. 6,320,710 to Ohnishi (hereinafter, merely “Ohnishi”) relates to the correction of mark patterns reproduced in parallel from a magnetic tape. A mark detection block successively identifies as one of the plurality mark patterns a plurality of binary data reproduced in parallel from the magnetic tape, and confirms a mark pattern whose reproduction time has reached a reference time. A mark pattern discontinuity detection block detects a discontinuity and the discontinuity integrating block counts the number of discontinuity times. The discontinuous number of times and the mark pattern held are output together with the confirmed mark pattern, thus correcting the mark pattern appropriately.

Applicants submit that nothing has been found in Zick or Ohnishi that would teach or suggest the above-identified features of independent claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 is believed to be patentable.

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Independent claim 9 is similar in scope and is believed patentable for similar reasons.

### III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

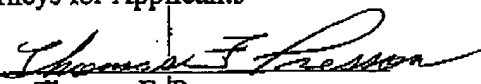
### CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,  
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